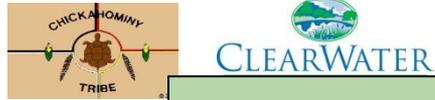


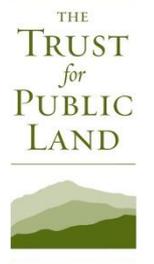


# Chesapeake

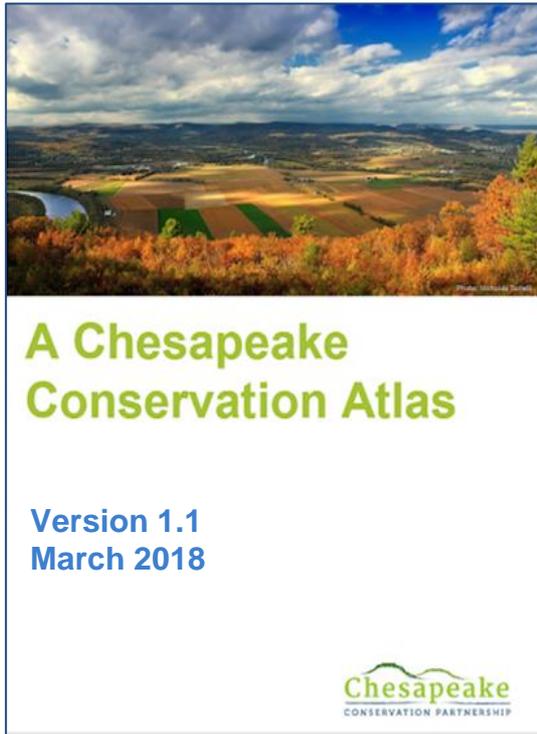
CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP



Collaborative action to conserve culturally and ecologically important landscapes to benefit people, economies, and nature throughout the six-state watershed.



National Trust for Historic Preservation  
Save the past. Enrich the future.



## Most Valued Lands



## Crediting Conservation under the Bay TMDL

### CREDITING CONSERVATION

Accounting for the Water Quality Value  
of Conserved Lands Under the Chesapeake Bay TMDL

CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION - JUNE 2013

**T**HERE IS AN UNDENIABLE LINK BETWEEN THE HEALTH OF THE WATERS OF THE CHESAPEAKE Bay and our stewardship of the huge area of land that comprises its watershed. The land-to-water ratio is larger than any other estuarine water body on earth. With a water surface for the tidal Bay of only 4,000 square miles and a watershed of 64,000 square miles, land surface exceeds water surface by more than 16 times. How we treat the land profoundly influences the quality of the water. Thus, land-use decisions may well be the most important factor in the success or failure of our efforts to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay.

*Keeping Our Commitment: Preserving Land in the Chesapeake Watershed*  
CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION, FEBRUARY 2001

#### INTRODUCTION

**L**and conservation and sound land use are fundamental components of restoring and protecting the resilience of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This is not a new concept. Land conservation has been supported throughout the history of the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership. The 1983 and 1987 agreements, *Chesapeake 2000*, and, most recently, the 2010 Watershed Implementation Plans of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, all incorporate land conservation elements in their goals. Public support for land conservation throughout the region has resulted in not only the achievement of acre goals for land conservation but also the setting of new goals to protect even more acres.

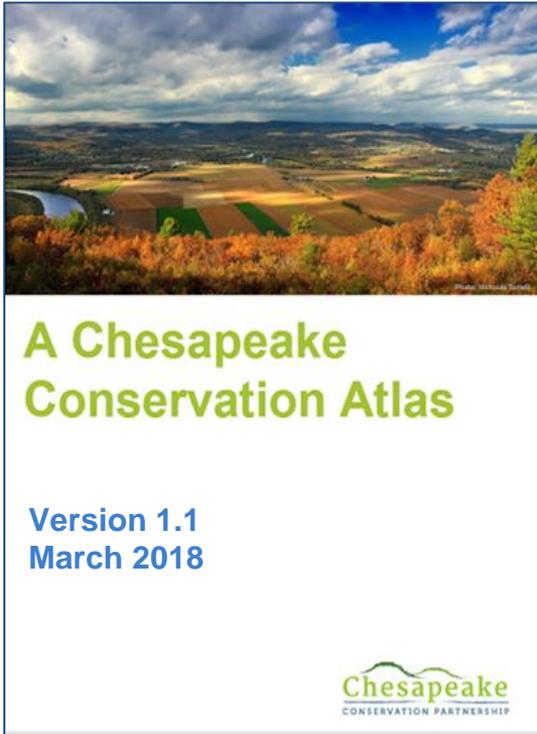
The benefits of land conservation are numerous and multifaceted; no one denies the inherent value of preserved land to the achievement of a healthy Chesapeake Bay. However, even though land conservation is critical to protecting against water quality degradation,<sup>1</sup> its specific role in water quality protection has not been recognized as a critically important tool for reducing nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution under the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The simple reason is that conserving land doesn't effectuate major reductions in pollution; rather, it prevents increases in pollution by precluding conversion.

When the Chesapeake Bay Agreements were the primary driver behind Bay restoration efforts, land conservation received much attention. Now that the Bay TMDL has become the primary driver, its numeric nature of counting pounds of pollution entering the Bay from various sources has made integrating the water quality values of conserving land an awkward fit – not unlike “fitting a square peg into a round hole.”

1. Forests account for approximately 60% of the land area in the Bay watershed and contribute only about 13% of the total load of nitrogen and 2% of the phosphorus load to the Bay. In addition, river basins with the highest percentage of forest cover have the lowest annual sediment yields to the Bay region.

# Conservation Plus BMPs - A Real Breakthrough

- Greening not just engineering
- Greater effectiveness
- Development Community— Prefer conservation over internalizing costs?
- Include conservation in WIPs
- Grow land conservation financing



## Platform for:

- Shared long-term goals
- Advocating for conservation
- Evaluating influences
- The green platform



# A Chesapeake Conservation Atlas

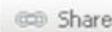


# LandScope Chesapeake

[Home](#) > [Focus and Plan](#) > [Priority Places](#) > [LandScope Chesapeake](#) > [LandScope Chesapeake Home](#)



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## > LandScope Chesapeake Home

[Conservation Summary](#)[Conservation Priorities](#)[Featured Places](#)[Protected Areas](#)[Conservation Partners](#)[Chesapeake Bay States](#)

### WHAT IS THE CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP?

The Chesapeake Conservation Partnership is a regional coalition of over 50 diverse organizations engaged in land conservation and related fields within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Since 2009 the Partnership has connected representatives from all six watershed states and DC including federal and state agencies, local governments, Native American tribes and non-profit organizations, [learn more](#).

### CONSERVATION GOALS

The Chesapeake Conservation Partnership has identified long-term landscape conservation goals for achieving a vision of a vibrant, healthy and sustainable Chesapeake region. These goals encompass values that have been documented through many public processes. They recognize all is interconnected -- a vibrant economy, strong communities, healthy people, working farms and forests, vital habitat for native wildlife, clean water, our shared heritage, recreation and quality of life.

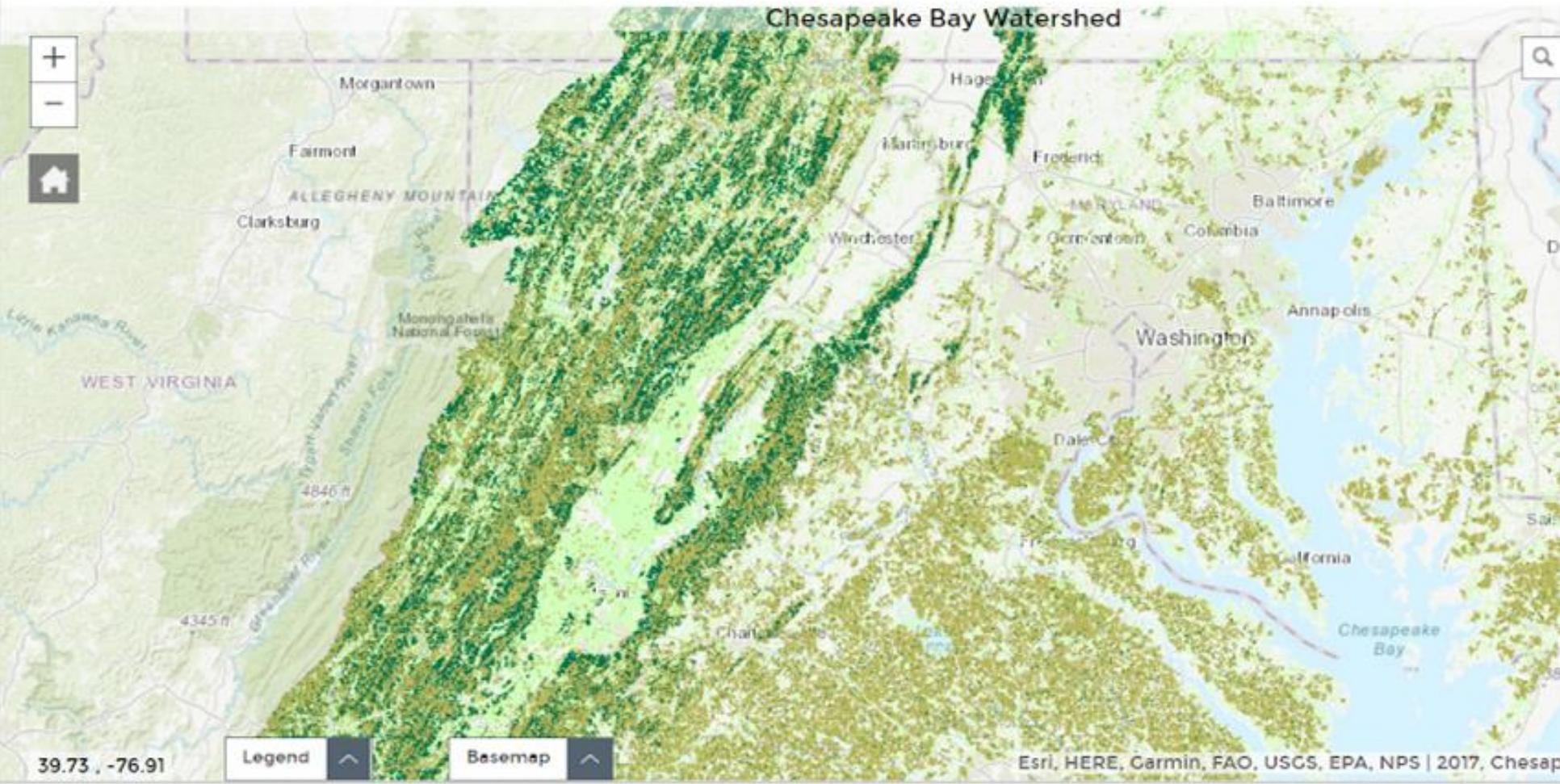


### From our Content Partner



### Locator Map

[GO TO THE MAP](#)





- 1** Set Long-term Goals
- 2** Document & Illustrate Them
- 3** ‘Grow the Pie’ Strategies
- 4** Track Progress

# Our Guidelines

**Pooling our priorities gives greater influence.**

---

**Everyone's land conservation goals and priorities are important.**

---

**The Partnership's landscape conservation goals should be inclusive of all partners' goals.**

---

**Dividing the pie is not our interest. Making the pie bigger is.**



A set of **inclusive** and **cumulative**  
**long-term** landscape  
conservation goals **reflecting**  
**what we all want** to conserve in  
the Chesapeake watershed.

**Farms**

**Forests**

**Habitat**

**Heritage**

**Health**

**Farms**

**Forests**

**Habitat**

**Heritage**

**Health**



All interconnected:

Vibrant economy

Strong communities

Healthy people

Working farms/forests

Thriving native wildlife

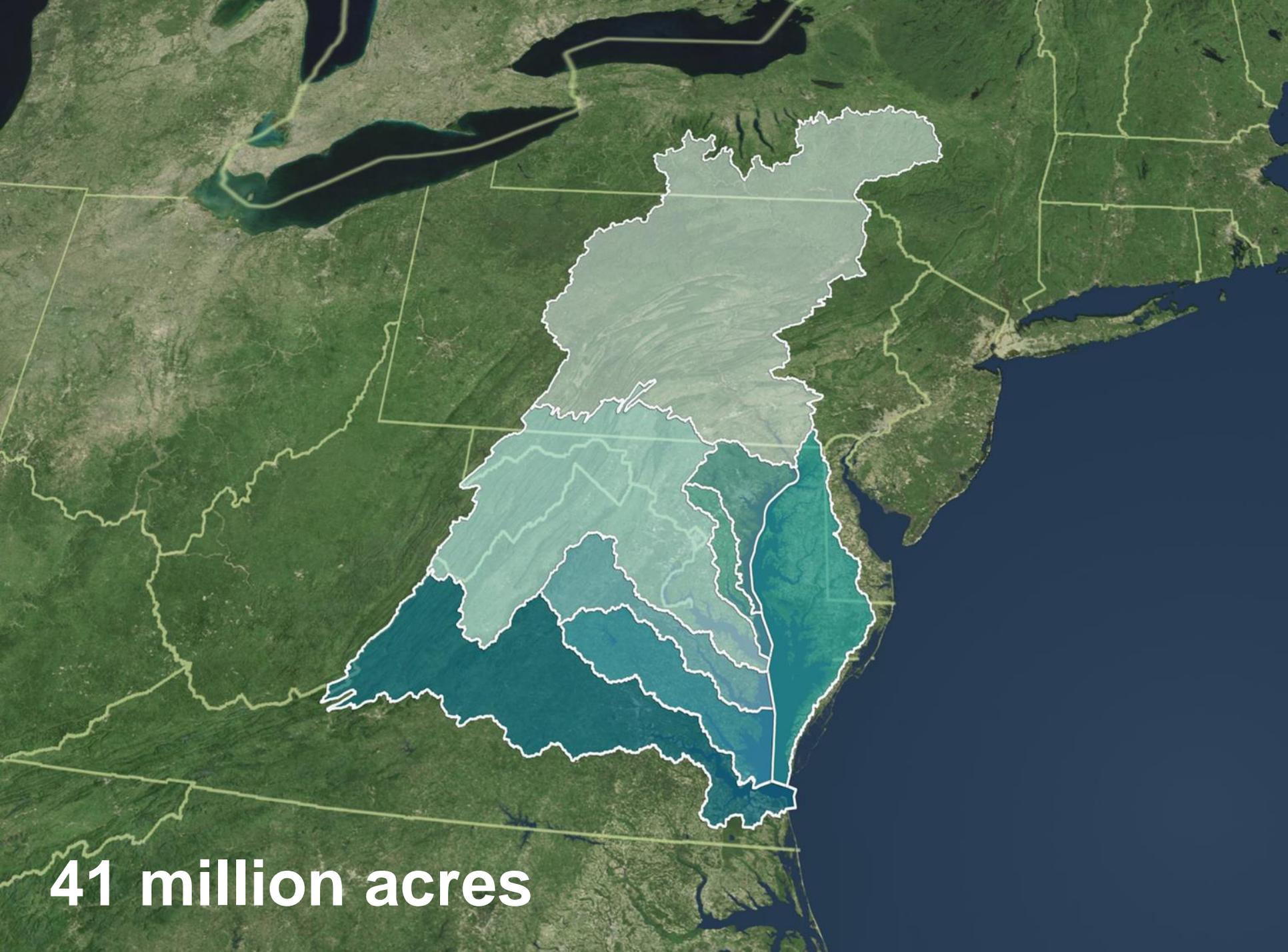
Clean water

Healthy watersheds

Shared heritage

Recreation

Quality of life



**41 million acres**



11%

4.5 million acres





**22 million acres**



**19 million acres**



**20 million acres**



**24 million acres**

# Goals

## Valued Lands

Composite of Farms, Forests,  
Habitat and Heritage:

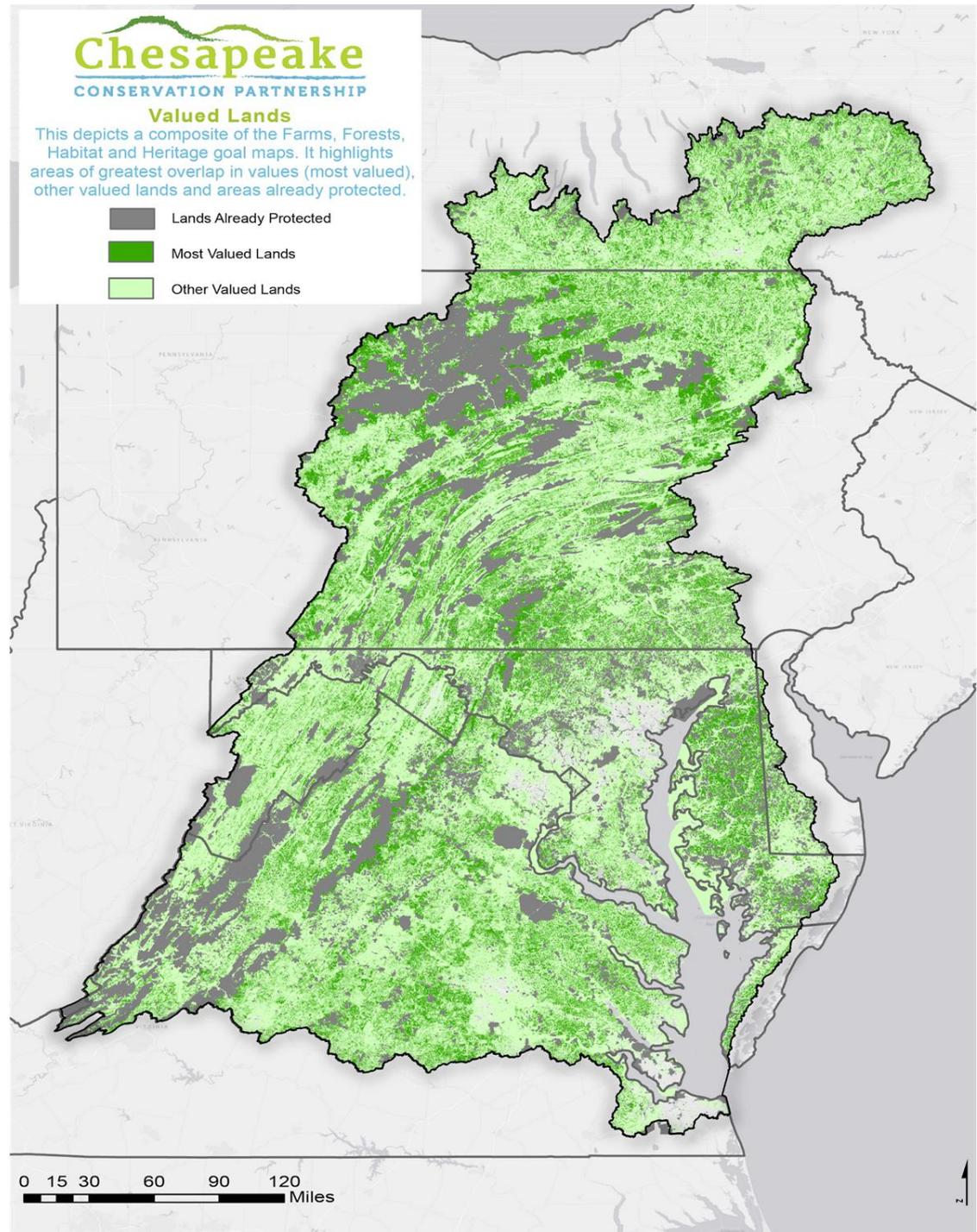
- Lands already protected
- Most valued lands
- Other valued lands

### Chesapeake CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

#### Valued Lands

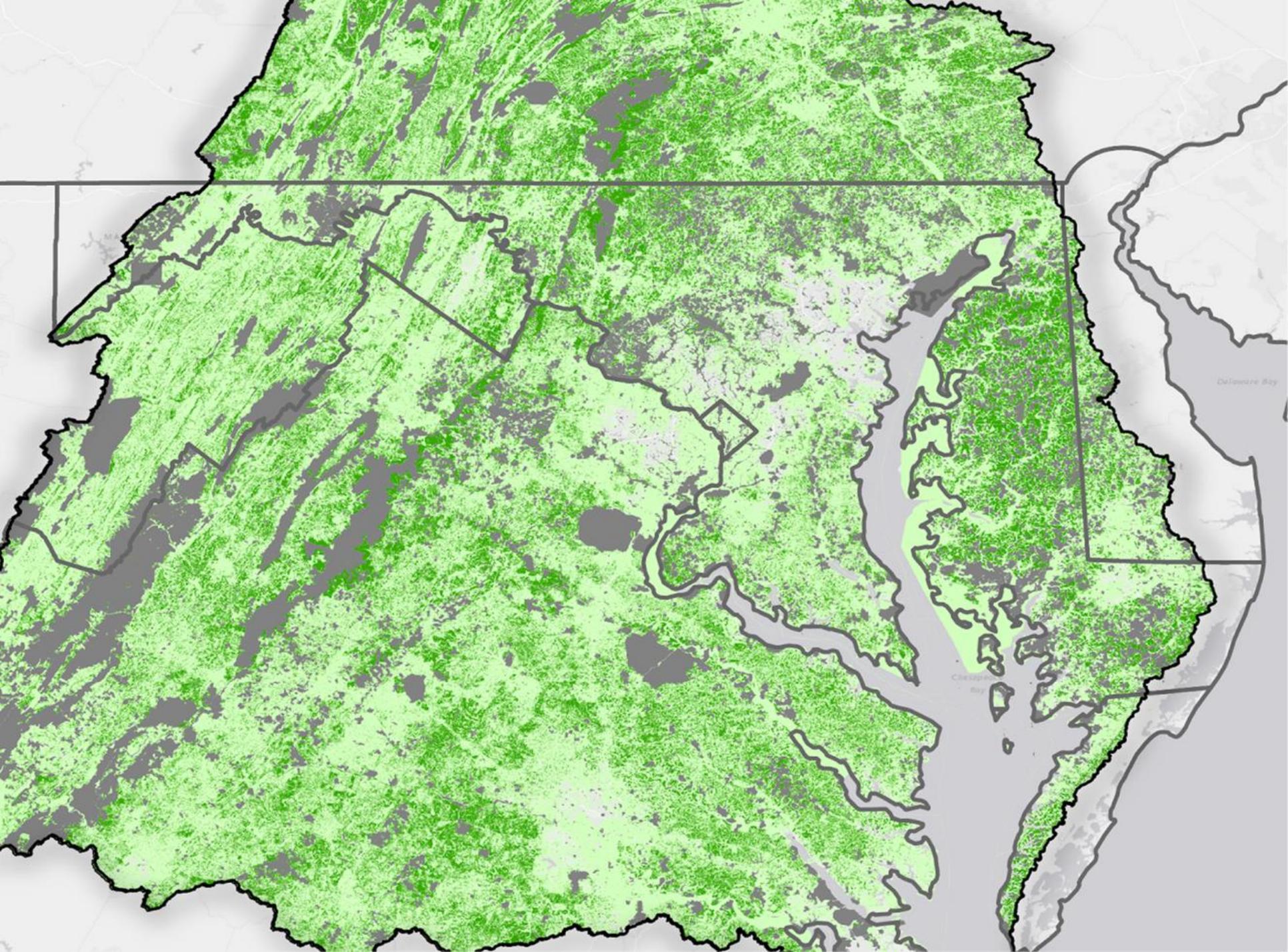
This depicts a composite of the Farms, Forests, Habitat and Heritage goal maps. It highlights areas of greatest overlap in values (most valued), other valued lands and areas already protected.

- Lands Already Protected
- Most Valued Lands
- Other Valued Lands



Prepared by:

Jake Leizear CCP 3/18 (1.1)



# The Numbers

**41** million acres **watershed land**

**20** million acres **valued farms (49%)**

**22** million acres **valued forests (54%)**

**19** million acres **valued habitat (46%)**

**24** million acres **valued heritage (58%)**

**4.5** million acres **developed (11%)**

**8.8** million acres **protected (22%)**

**11.5** million acres **most valued, unprotected (28%)**

**16.2** million acres **remaining (39%)**



# Farms

Protect the Chesapeake watershed's **productive farms** and **prime farmland** from conversion and secure **space for urban farming** to ensure permanent, sustainable 'close to home' sources of food for the region's population and to support the economic and cultural value of our working farms and farmers.



# Forests

Protect the Chesapeake watershed's most ecologically and economically valuable forest land from conversion--**headwater and riparian forests, large forest blocks, woodlots providing multiple values, and highly productive timber growing soils.**



# Habitat

Protect a **network of large natural areas and corridors** sufficient to allow nature to respond to a changing climate and land development and to support thriving populations of native wildlife, migratory birds, fish and plants and sustain at-risk species.



# Heritage

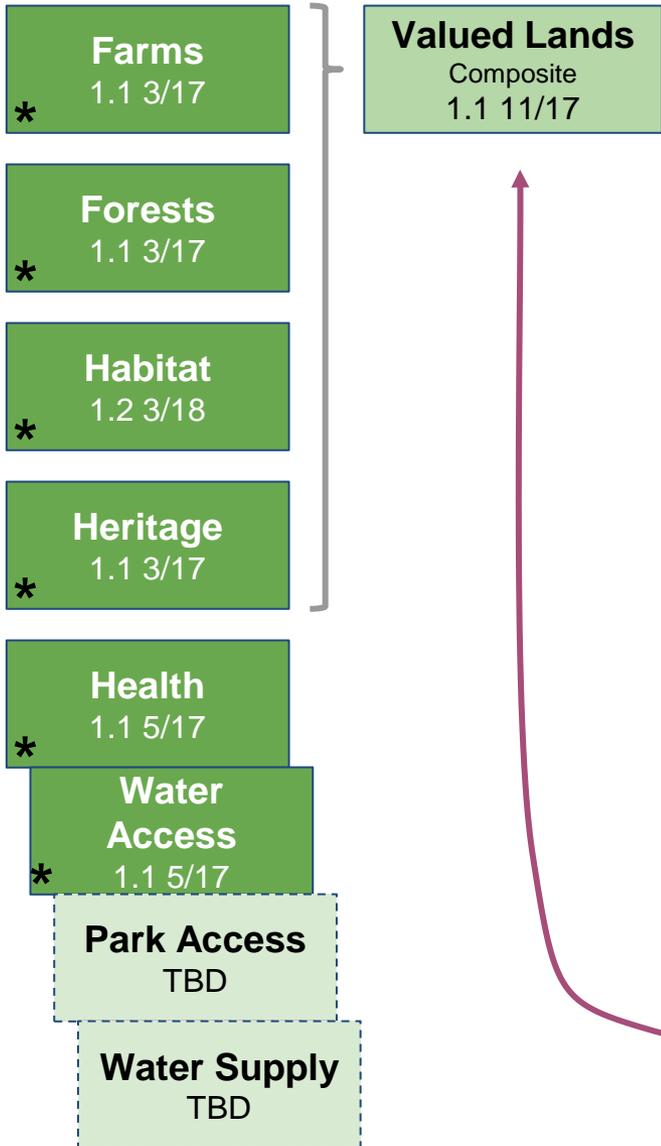
Protect the treasured landscapes of our collective heritage from development that would alter the scenery and character that conveys their importance -- along our designated trails and scenic rivers and byways, at our parks, and throughout our state and national heritage areas, valued cultural landscapes and historic districts.



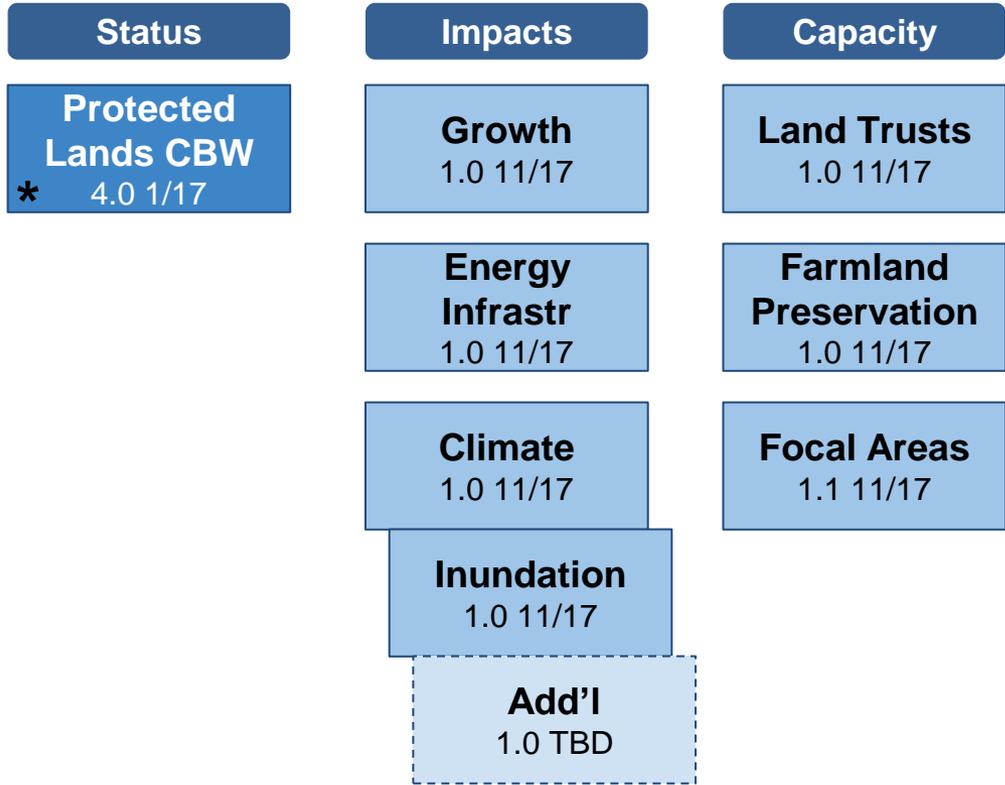
# Human Health

Provide people access to parks and trail networks within walking and biking distance of their homes and communities. Provide sufficient opportunities along waterways to ensure nearly all residents are within 30 minutes of reaching a public access site at water's edge.

### Goal Maps



### Influences Maps



\* Published to LandScope

## Goals

## Farms

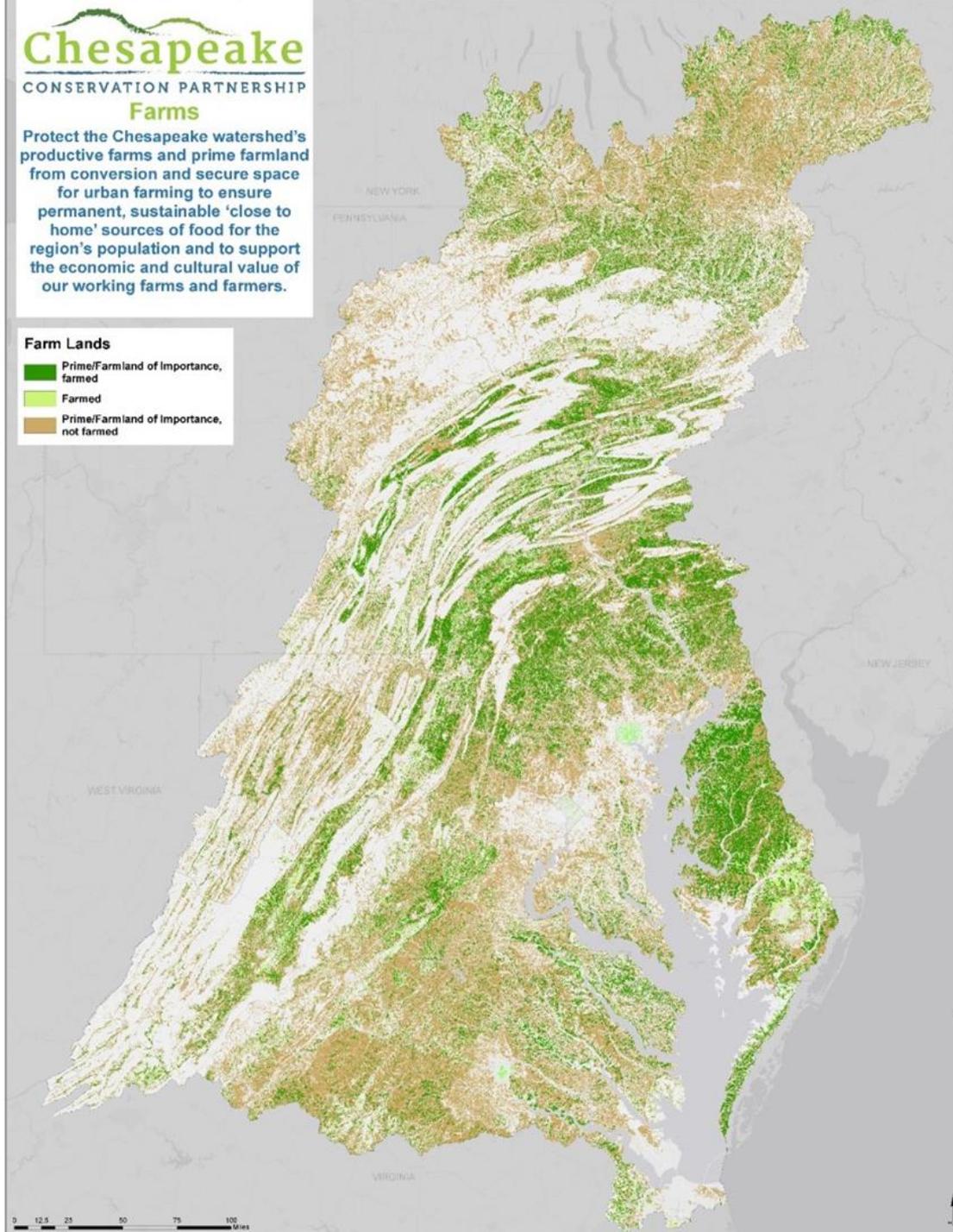
### Valued farmlands:

- Farmed Prime Soils and Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Other farmed
- Not farmed Prime Soils and Farmland of Statewide Importance

20.5 million acres

Prepared by:

Louis Kedell CC 3/17



# Goals

# Forests

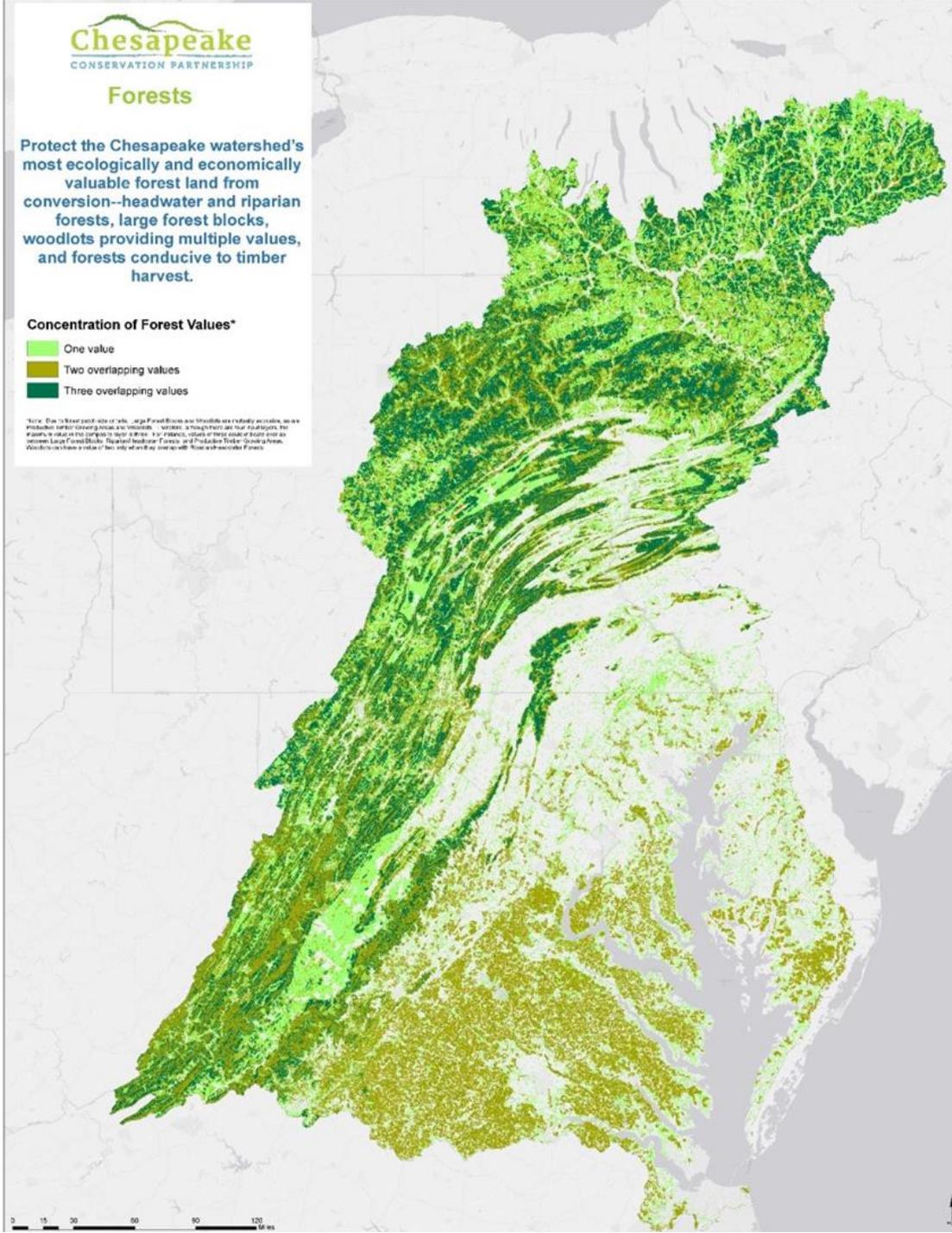
Valued forests:

- Headwater & Riparian Forests
- Large Forest Blocks
- Multiple Value Woodlots
- Forests Conducive to Timber Harvests

Map shows extent of overlapping values

22 million acres

Prepared by:  
Andy Fitch USGS 3/17



# Goals

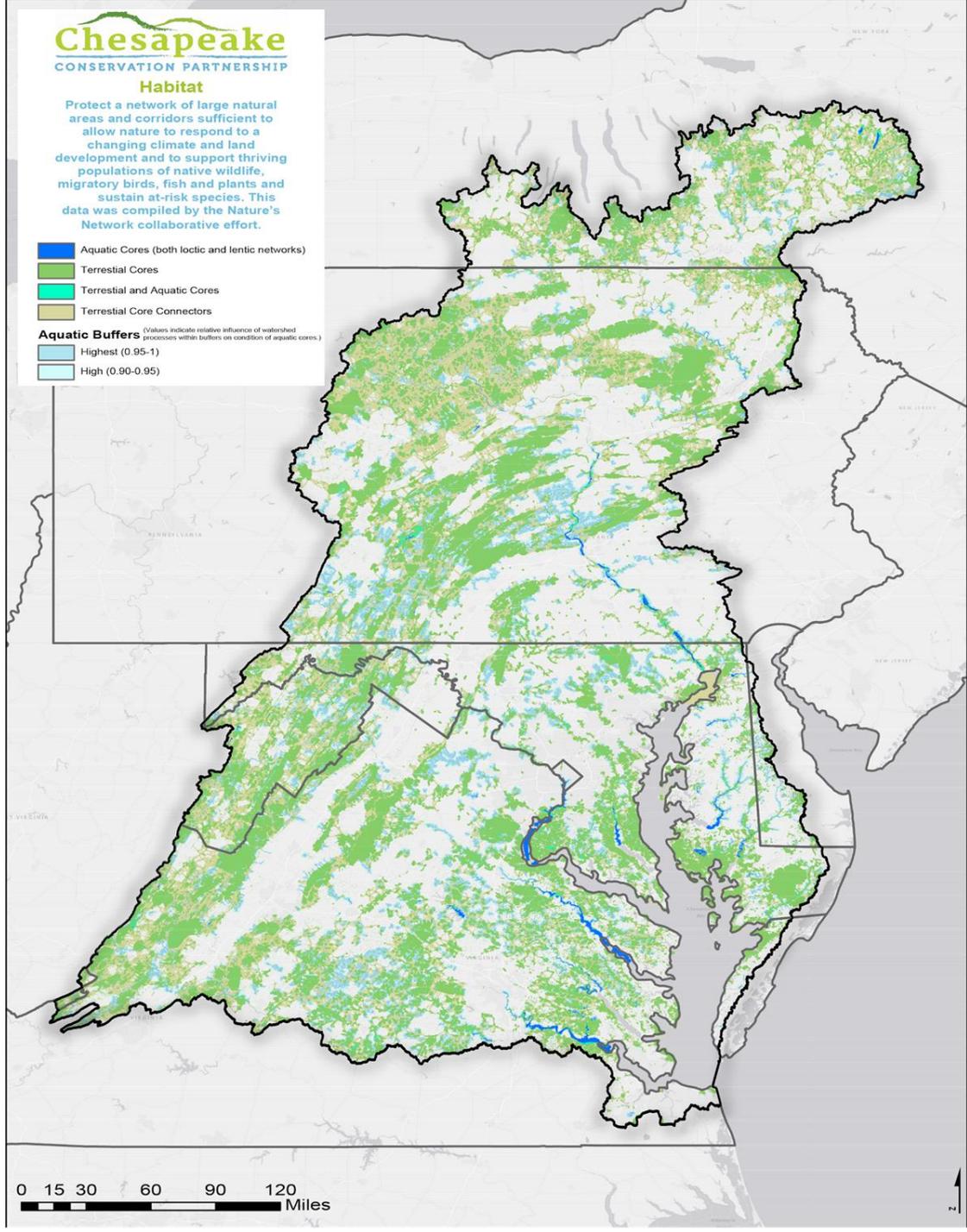
# Habitat

Valued habitat (1.2):

- Terrestrial - Core Connector Network
- Aquatic Core Network
- Aquatic Buffers

19.5 million acres

Prepared by:  
NALCC 3/18



# Goals

# Heritage

Valued heritage resources:

- Historic sites/districts
- Heritage areas
- Scenic rivers & byways
- Parks
- National trails
- Battlefields
- PA CLs and MD RL Areas

20.6 million acres

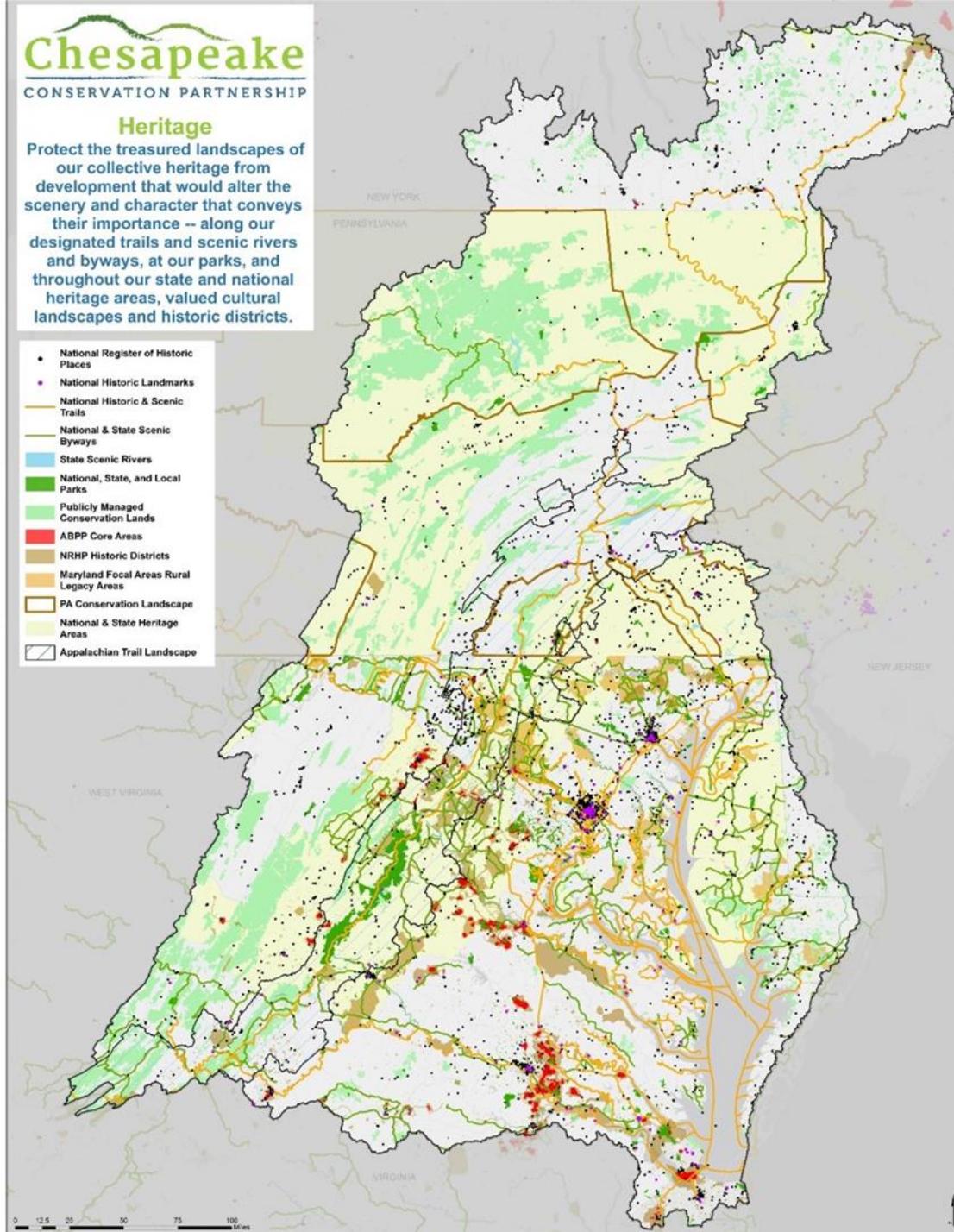
Prepared by:  
Louis Kedell CC 3/17

**Chesapeake**  
CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

## Heritage

Protect the treasured landscapes of our collective heritage from development that would alter the scenery and character that conveys their importance -- along our designated trails and scenic rivers and byways, at our parks, and throughout our state and national heritage areas, valued cultural landscapes and historic districts.

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- National Historic & Scenic Trails
- National & State Scenic Byways
- State Scenic Rivers
- National, State, and Local Parks
- Publicly Managed Conservation Lands
- ABPP Core Areas
- NRHP Historic Districts
- Maryland Focal Areas Rural Legacy Areas
- PA Conservation Landscape
- National & State Heritage Areas
- Appalachian Trail Landscape

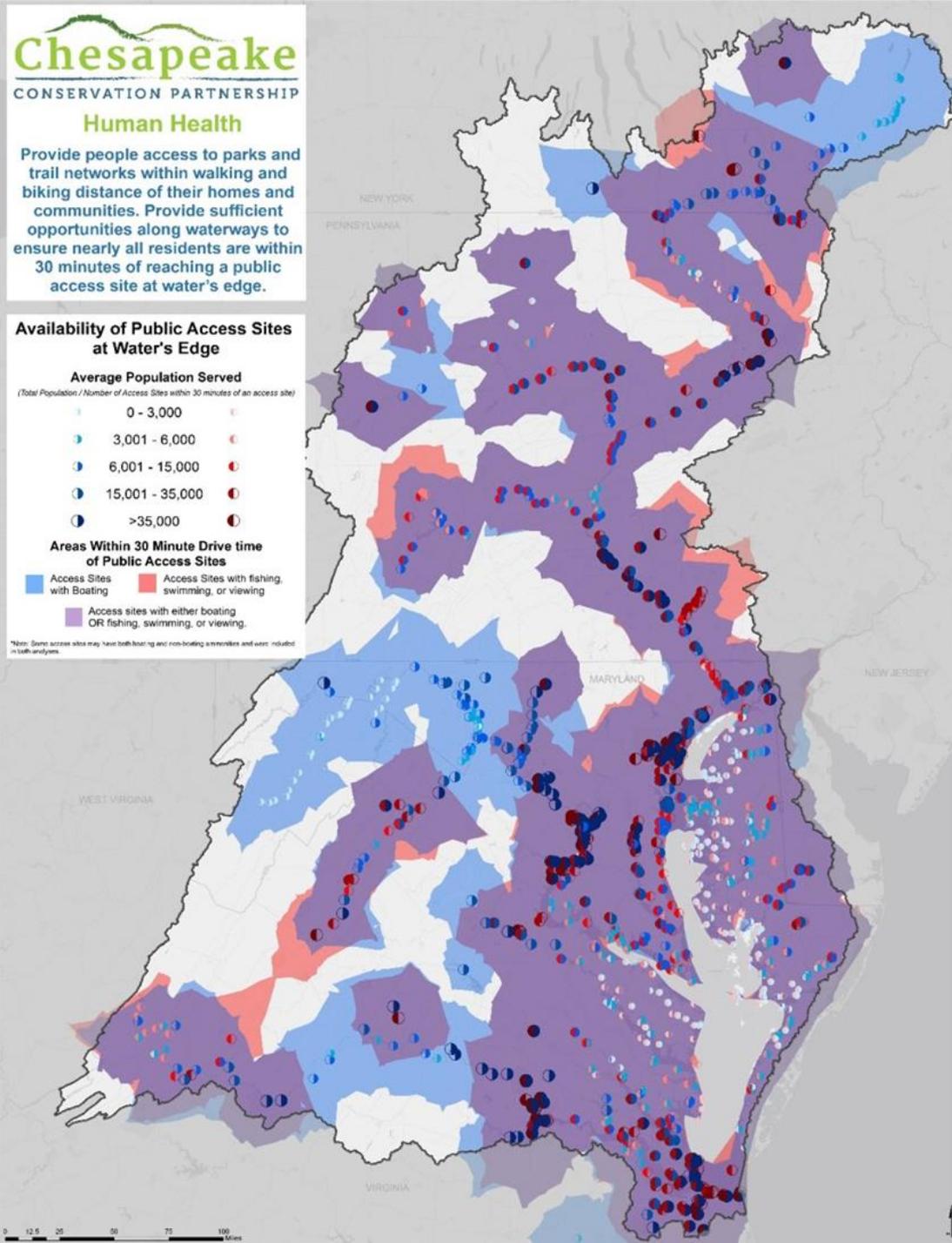


# Goals

## Human Health

Access to water:

- Areas within 30 minute drive time of access sites
- Average population served



Prepared by:

Louis Kedell CC 5/17

Influences

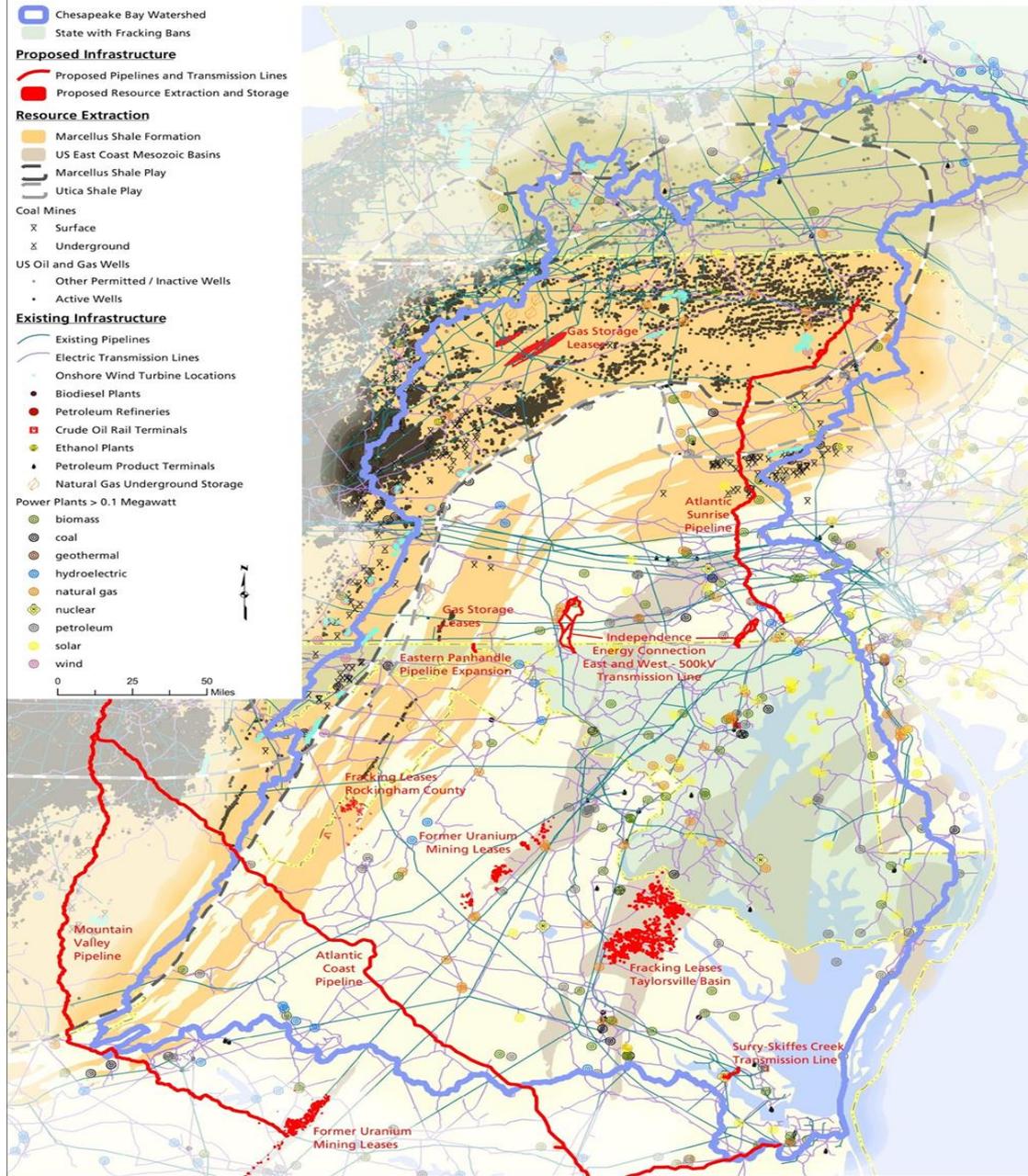
Impacts

# Energy Infrastructure

Existing and proposed energy resources and infrastructure.

Prepared by:  
Watsun Randolph PEC 11/17

## Energy Resources in Chesapeake Bay Watershed



Influences

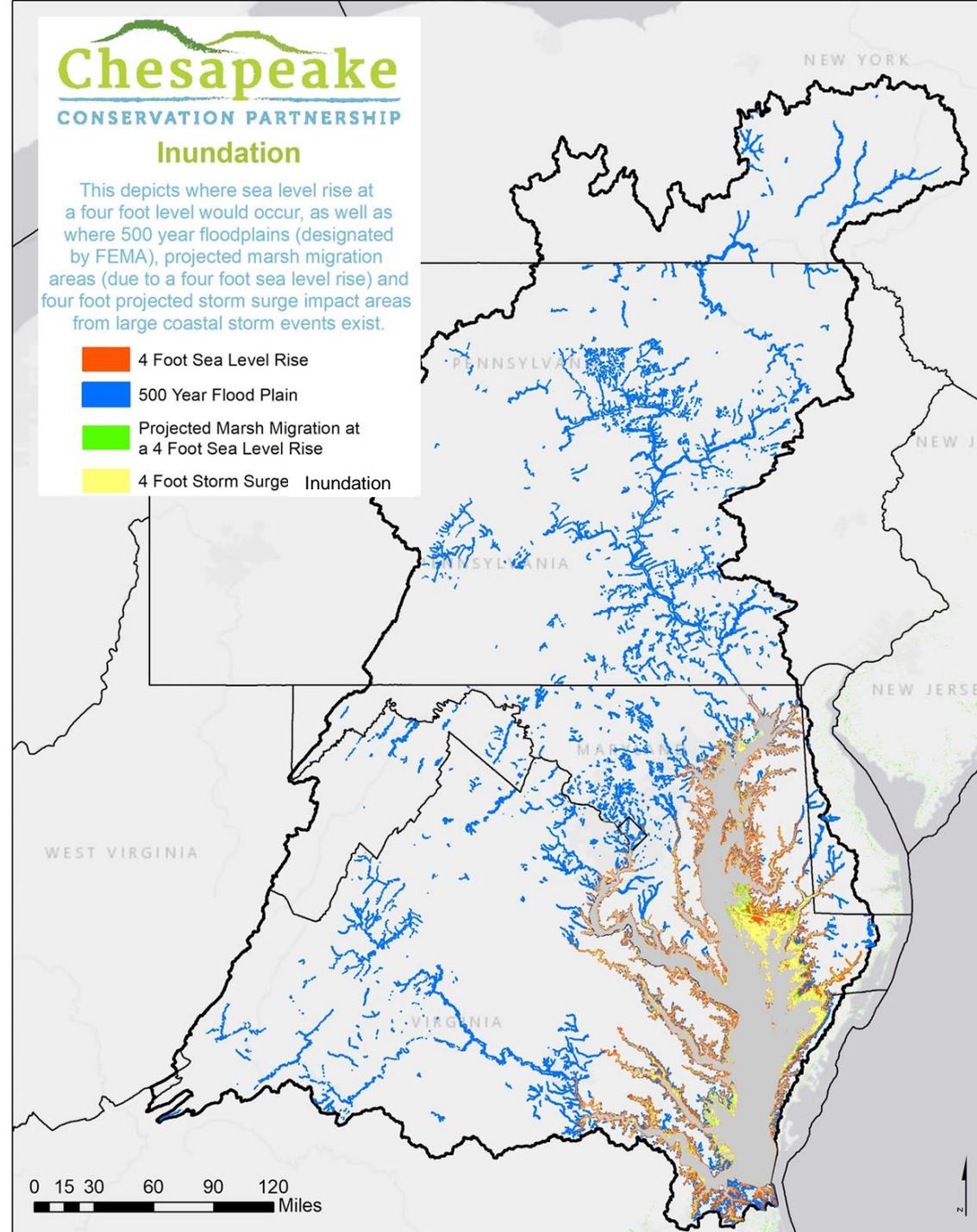
Impacts

# Inundation

Four aspects of inundation:

- Projected Inundation from Sea Level Rise
- Projected Marsh Migration Areas
- Projected Storm Surge Impact Areas
- 500 Year Floodplain

Prepared by:  
Jake Leizear CCP 11/17



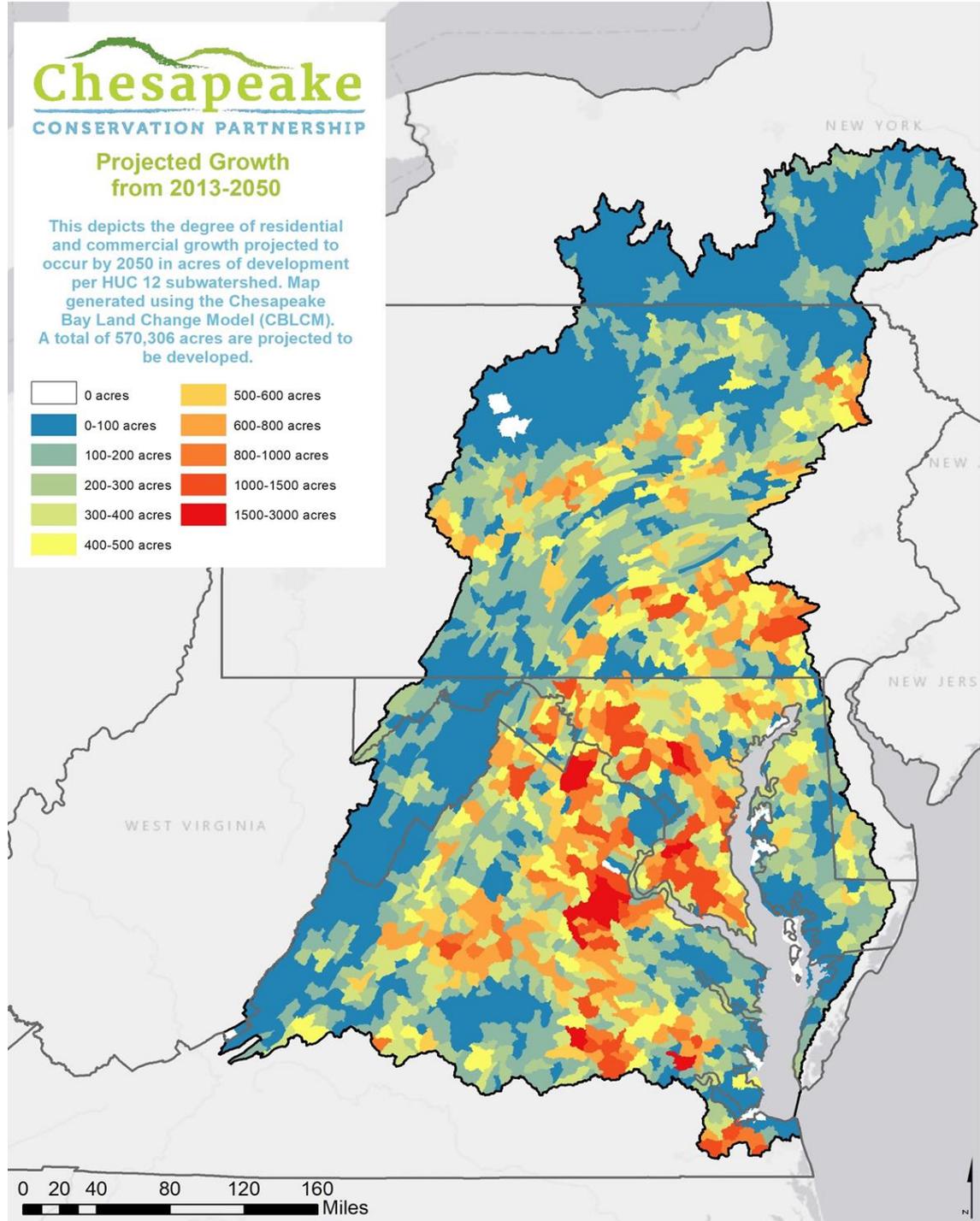
Influences

Impacts

# Growth

Projected additional development by 2050, in additional acres per HUC12.

Prepared by:  
Peter Claggett USGS 9/17



Influences

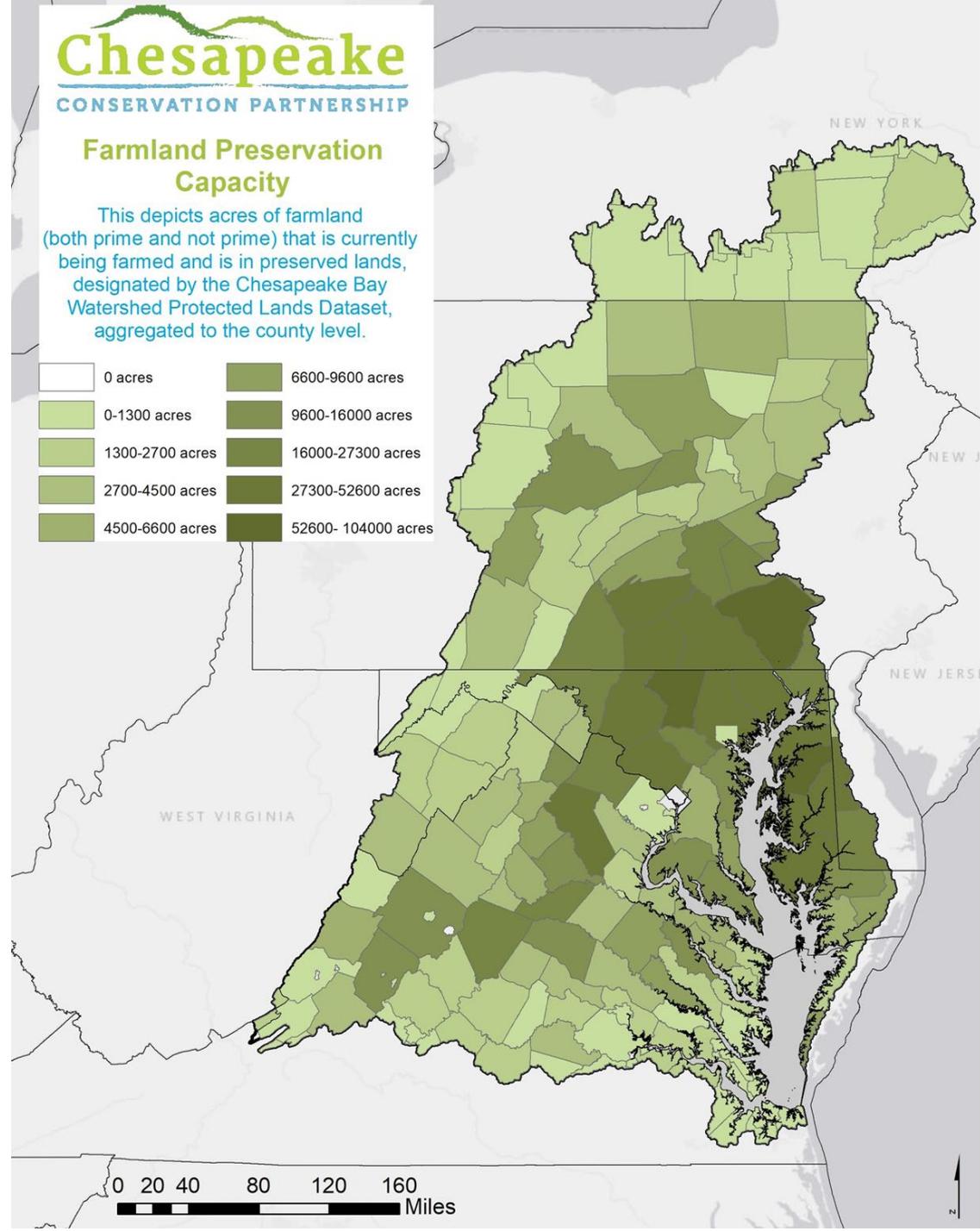
Capacity

# Farmland Preservation

Proxy for capacity based on past success:

- Relative magnitude (in acres) of farmland that has been protected by county to date.

Prepared by:  
Jake Leizear CCP 11/17



Influences

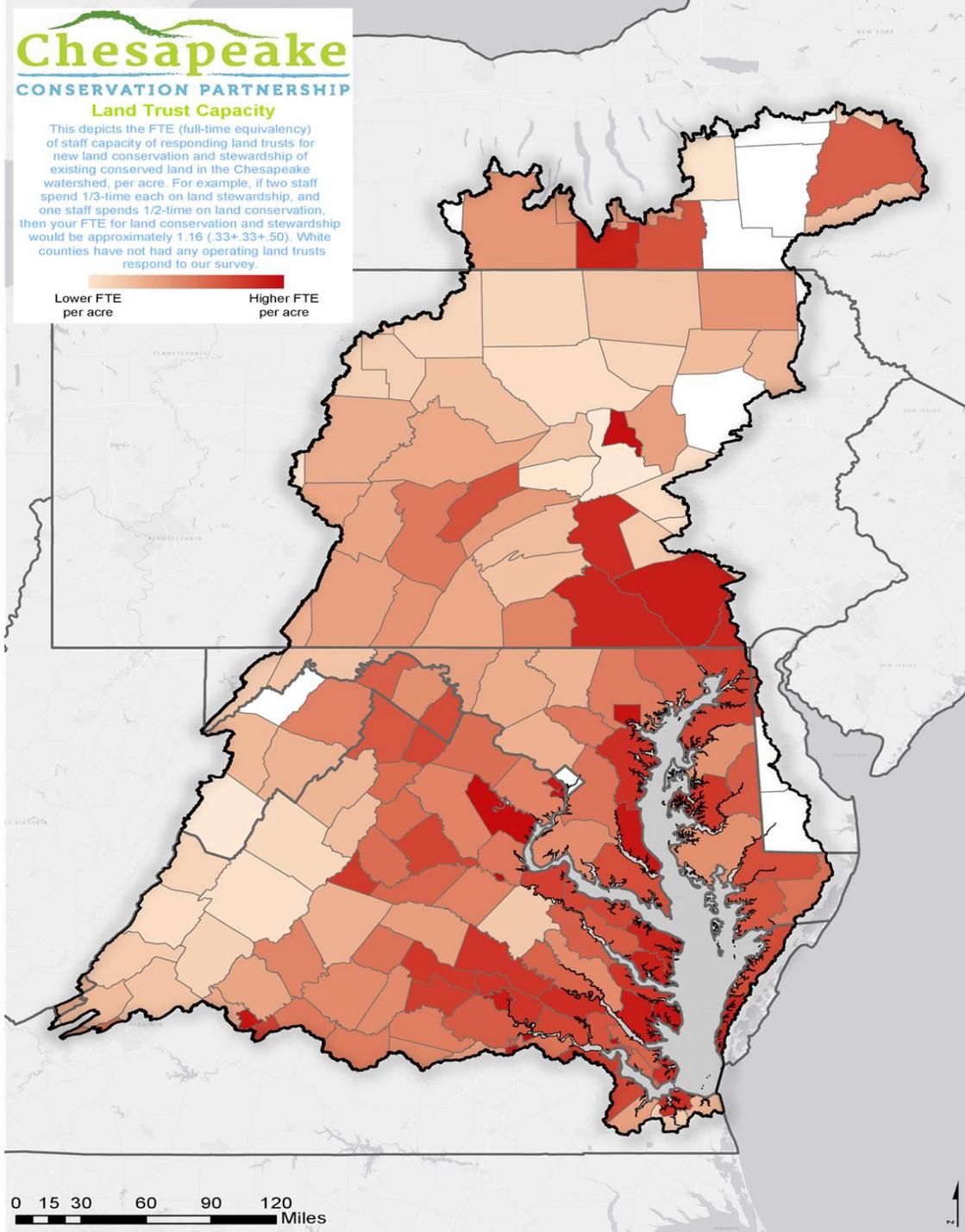
Capacity

## Land Trusts

The map uses November 2017 data to depict levels of land trust staff capacity, in FTEs, per county covered.

**With State-wide Land Trusts  
(MET & VOF)**

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Miller-Herzog LTA & Jake  
Leizear CCP 3/18 (1.1)



Influences

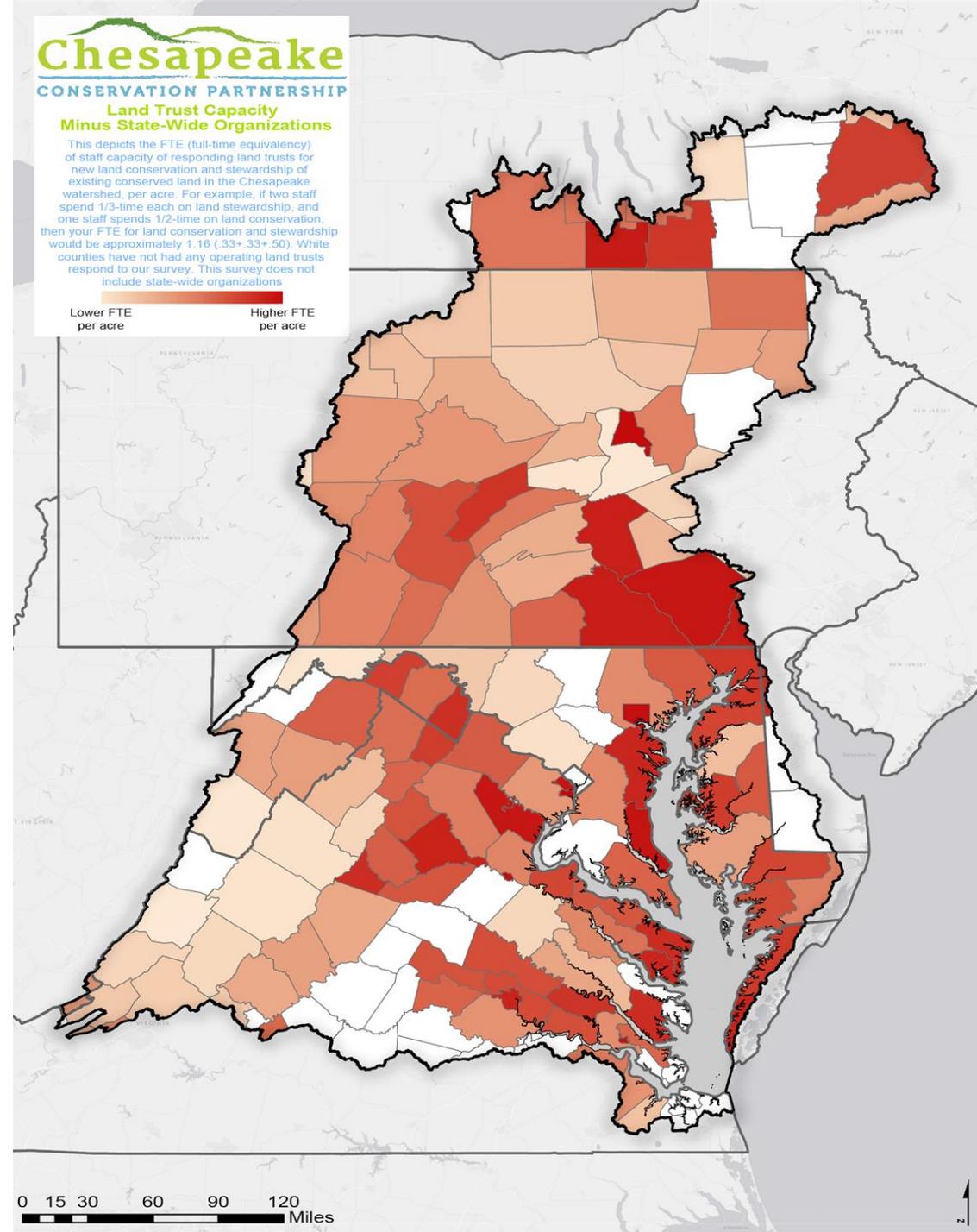
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## Without State-wide Land Trusts

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Miller-Herzog LTA & Jake  
Leizear CCP 3/18 (1.1)



Influences

Capacity

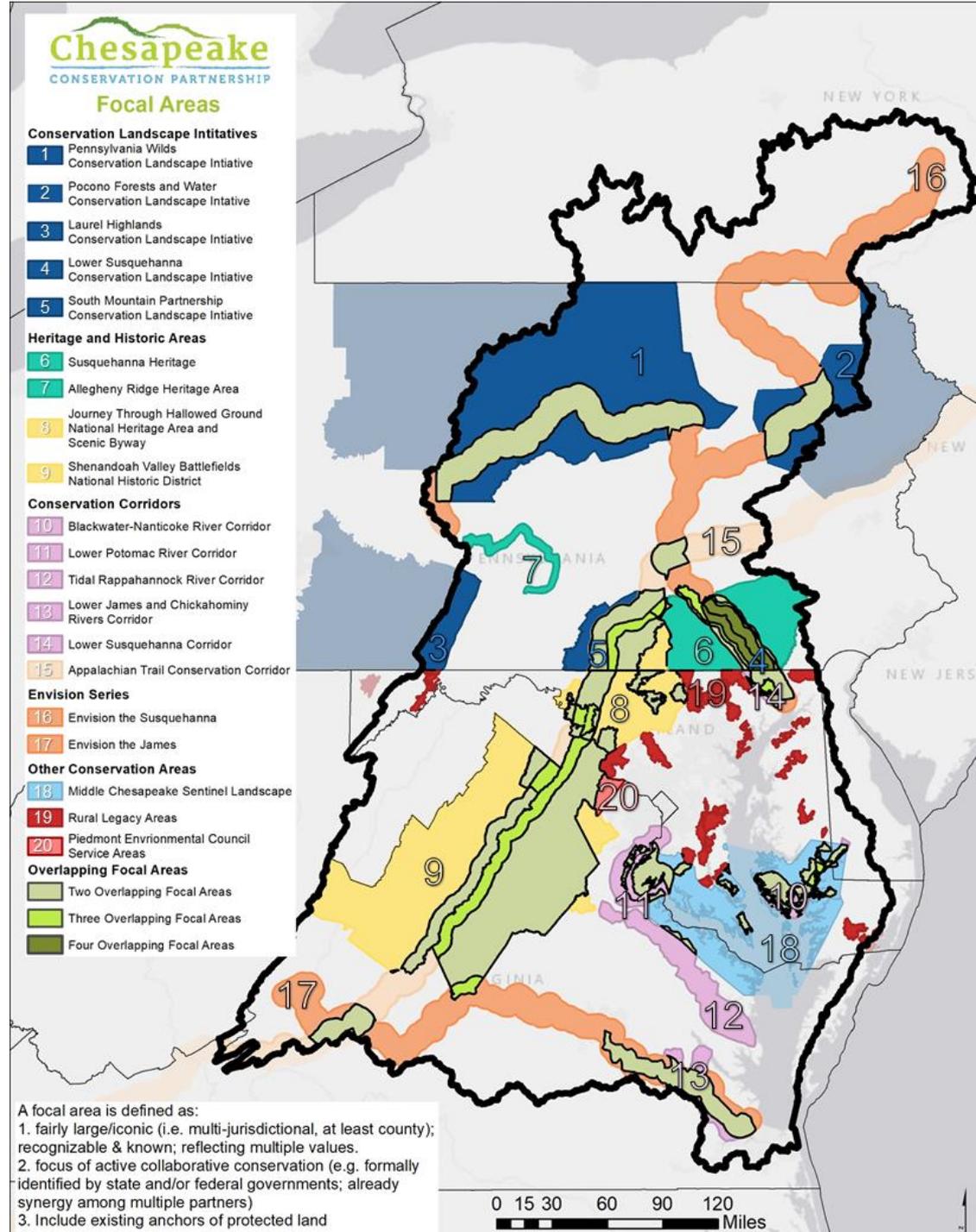
# Focal Areas

Mix of different on-going landscape level efforts:

- Pennsylvania Conservation Landscapes
- Heritage Areas with a Conservation Focus
- Conservation Corridors
- Other Areas

Updated by:

Jake Leizear CCP 11/17



# Goals

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Composite of Farms, Forests,  
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- Most valued lands
- Other valued lands

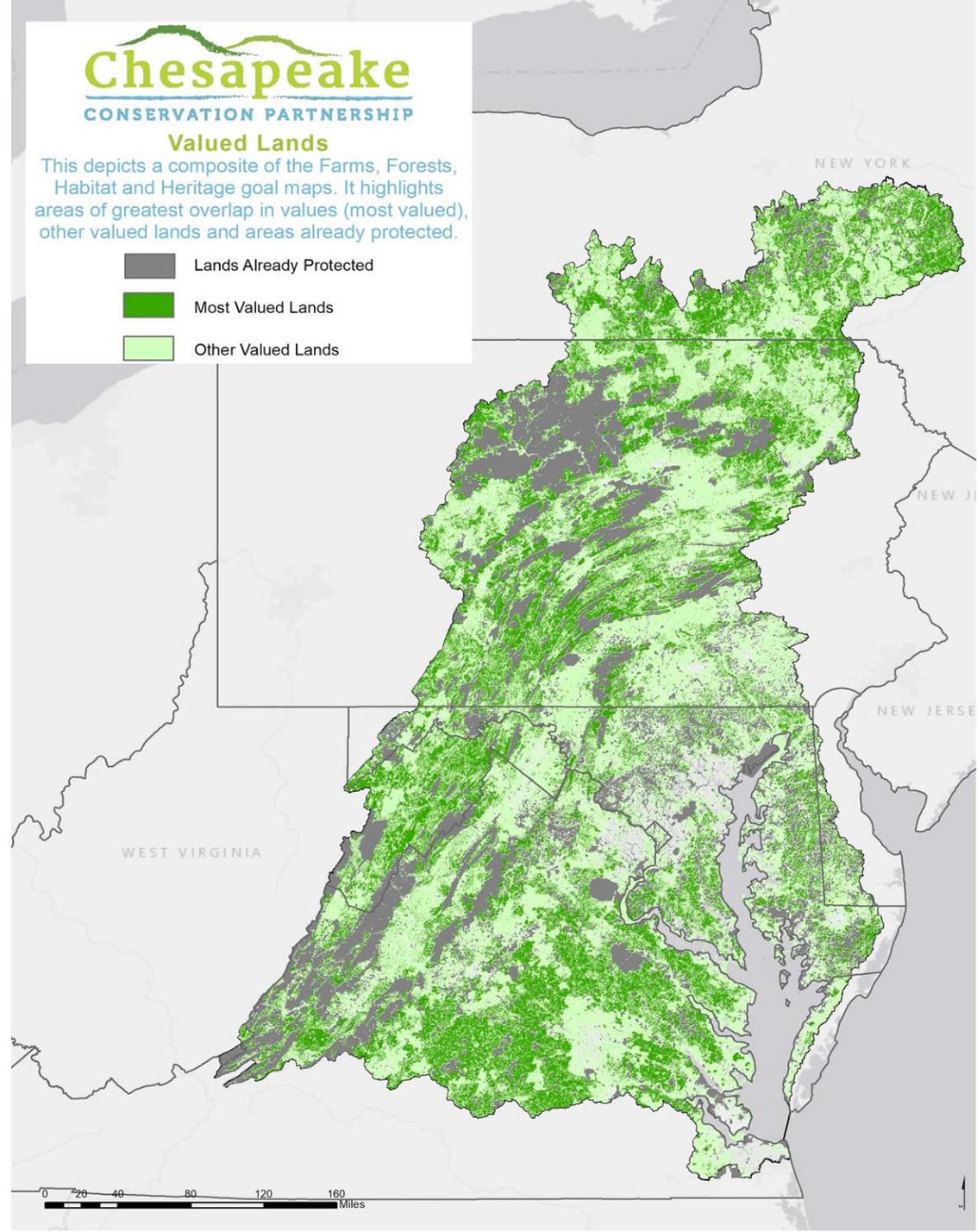
### Chesapeake

CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

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Prepared by:

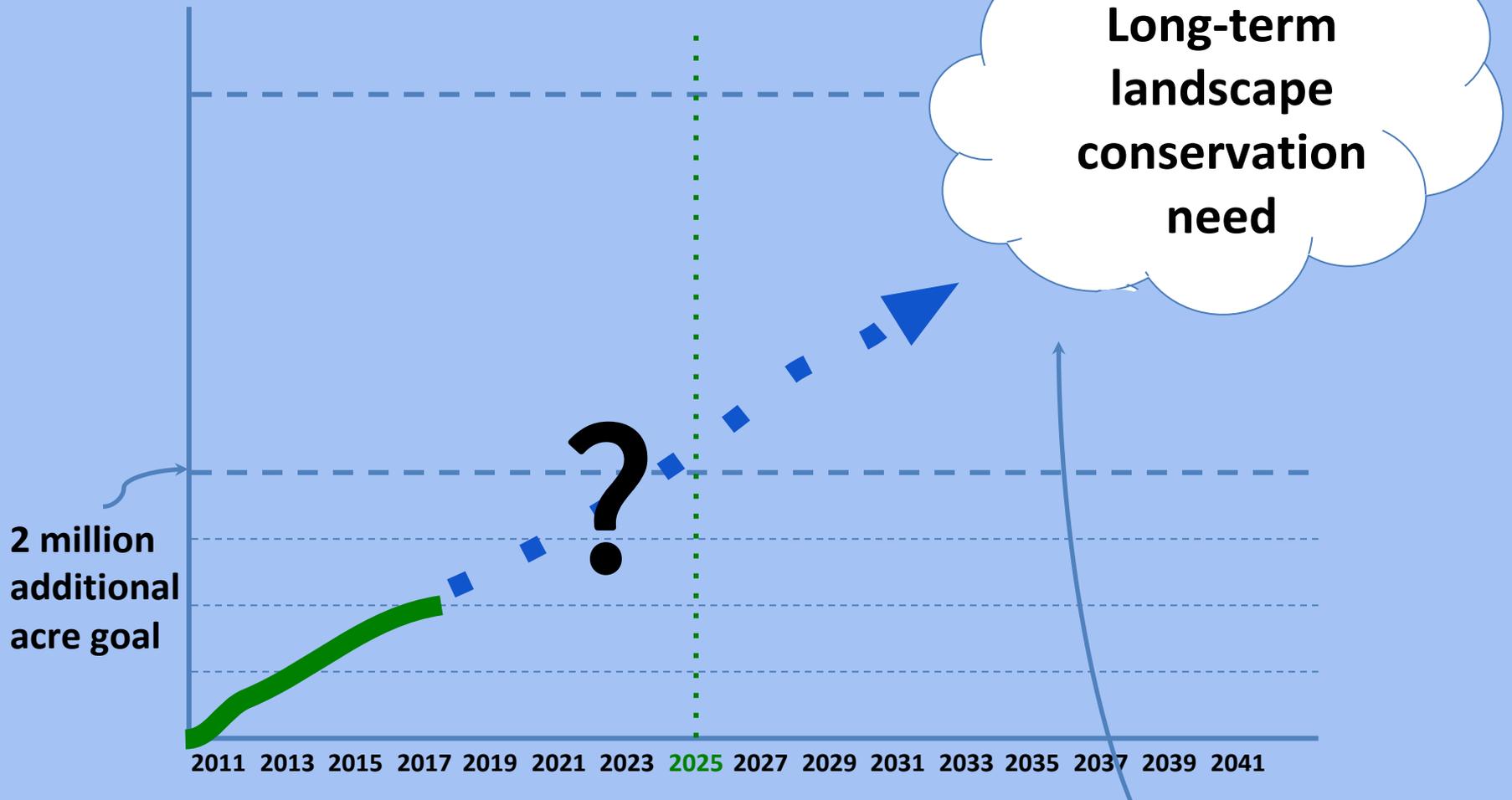
Jake Leizear CCP 11/17

What might we have missed?

How would you like to use this  
information?

What would be helpful in the  
future?

# Strategies



**What new strategies/resources are needed to get there?**